

**CALIFORNIA INSPECTION & MAINTENANCE  
REVIEW COMMITTEE**

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SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814  
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February 25, 2005

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Robert Pearman

Jeffrey Williams

Rocky Carlisle,  
Executive Officer

The Honorable Cindy Montanez  
California State Assembly  
PO Box 942849  
Sacramento, California 94249-0001

Dear Assembly Member Montanez:

I am writing on behalf of the California Inspection and Maintenance Review Committee in support of Assembly Bill 383. Your bill seeks to improve the current Consumer Assistance Program by redefining low income eligibility and removing the automatic qualification for motorists with vehicles directed to Test-Only stations. The Consumer Assistance Program is a vital component of California's Smog Check program as we continue our efforts to achieve clean air standards.

In the Committee's opinion, the current income eligibility for this program is set too low and consequently does not allow the program to assist many motorists who may not have the financial resources to repair their vehicle in order to maintain low emissions. Even with the proposed increase to 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, some needy consumers will still not qualify for the needed assistance, but this measure is a step in the right direction.

Eliminating the automatic qualification for owners of vehicles directed to Test-Only stations also ensures that those with adequate financial resources do not qualify for the Consumer Assistance Program thereby allowing the resources to be used for those truly in need of the financial support. If we can be of any assistance as this bill progresses through the Legislature, please contact our Executive Officer at (916) 322-8249. Thank you for your efforts to help clean the air and improve the environment for all Californians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Victor Weisser'.

Victor Weisser  
Chairman